



Lafayette Police Department Press Release



Lafayette Police Department
20 N. 6th Street
Lafayette Indiana 47901

For Immediate Release:

Contact: Sgt. Max Smith
765-807-1293

April 29, 2010

Case: 2010-5133

Lafayette, IN- Lafayette Police Department were dispatched at 2:09 PM to the railroad crossing on Poland Hill Road, just north of the intersection of Beck Lane in reference to a car/train crash.

A southbound Green 2007 Cadillac driven by Erna L. Simek age 87, of the 300 block of Plateau Drive, Lafayette, IN disregarded the approaching Norfolk and Southern train traveling in a northwestern direction. The vehicle entered the crossing and was struck on the left front by the right front of the train. The collision pushed the vehicle off the tracks and into a stop sign and railroad cross buck sign. The driver of the Cadillac was transported to Clarian-Arnett Hospital. She was transported as a precaution and was not injured. No one on the train was injured.

The 17 car train was traveling at 15 mph and was sounding the train horn as it approached the crossing. Beck Lane and Poland Hill Rd railroad crossings were block for approximately 90 minutes. This one track crossing is regulated by a cross buck railroad sign and posted stop sign, there are no flashing signals.

Sergeant Max Smith
Traffic Division
Lafayette Police Department